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SNOW COUNTRY

Montana Snowmobiling Guide

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Come to Montana for the white carpet treatment.

Ever since snowmobiling first captured the attention of "winter people," Montana has distinguished itself as the ultimate destination for snowmobilers. Each year, Montana rolls out a thousand miles of white carpet — 1,000 miles of groomed, marked and spectacularly scenic snowmobile trails. Trails that will take you to the geysers and hot pots of Yellowstone National Park. Trails that will take you right up to the edge of some of Montana's most magnificent and rugged backcountry — Glacier National Park, the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the Beartooth "high country." And trails that will take you to good times with family and friends on a Montana getaway vacation.

The combined efforts of the Montana Snowmobile Program and the Montana Snowmobile Association have created this growing network of snowmobile trails. The program, administered by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, is funded by a percentage of the distributors' gasoline tax. This revenue plus the revenue from snowmobile registration fees provides about $250,000 annually for development and maintenance of trails as well as for law enforcement, safety and education. Through the volunteer efforts of the Montana Snowmobile Association and local snowmobile clubs, the grooming effort has created a trail network that sets Montana apart as a first-class snowmobile destination.

The areas listed in this guide are the areas where local clubs have joined forces with the State of Montana to develop and maintain a system of groomed trails. These areas offer additional activities and attractions that are guaranteed to make a memorable winter vacation. There are snowcoach tours and guided snowmobile and ski tours through Yellowstone National Park. There is excellent, dry powder, downhill skiing at any one of Montana's 17 downhill ski areas. Choose one of the big-name resorts or get to know the natives at one of Montana's smaller, family-style ski areas. There are western-style guest ranches and hot springs resorts that specialize in ski touring. At the end of the day, after you've filled up on Montana's unbelievably fresh mountain air, you can relax with friends in a cozy setting or enjoy a night on the town. Montana doesn't roll up the streets in the winter. It's one of our peak seasons and we make the most of it.

Montana usually greets winter by Thanksgiving, and winter sports can last well into spring. Montana's winter weather is milder than it is reputed to be. Our high, dry, Rocky Mountain climate produces splendid powder snow that settles into hardpack in most places after January. Periodic cold spells are frequently broken by mild weather when Montana's famed chinook winds bring warm, dry air from the southwest to the downwind slopes of our major mountain ranges.

This fourth-largest state ranks 43rd in population, so there are no crowds, no lines, no waiting, no elbows in ribs. But don't get the idea it's lonesome. The people you'll meet here are winter people like yourself, people who anticipate this season all year long and share their zest for it with friendly Montana hospitality.

There is a bonus called economy for everyone who visits Montana. Goods and services cost measurably less in Montana than in most eastern and many western states. A night's lodging rarely exceeds $40, and you would have to disgrace yourself at the table to pay more than $20 for even the most elegant meal.

Montana is easy to get to. Good interstate and state highways are maintained during the winter, and four commercial airlines serve Montana's major cities with smaller airlines making good connections. Car rentals and bus service are available when and where you need them.

Come try our trails. If you're a winter person, a Montana snowmobile vacation will satisfy your soul.

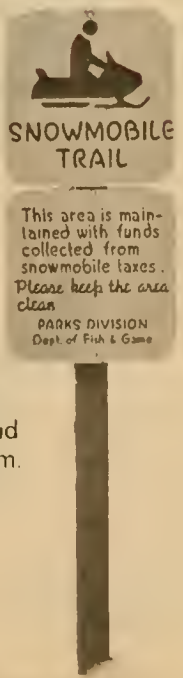
SNOWMOBILE
TRAIL
This area is maintained with funds collected from snowmobile taxes.
Please keep the area clean
PARKS DIVISION
Dept. of Fish & Game

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Photo Credits

Cover: Snowmobiling near West Yellowstone, Bill Howell.

Inside front cover: West Pioneers in southwestern Montana, Ron Aasheim.

Color photos, pp. 10, 11: Background scenic of Montana's Bridger Range near Bozeman, Garry Wunderwald; Montana snow delivers the thrills, Bill Howell; Mule deer fawn, Mike Aderhold, Groomed trail near Yellowstone National Park, Bill Howell; Warm winter faces, courtesy of Snowmobile West Magazine; inset photos courtesy of John Deere & Co. and the U.S. Forest Service.

Inside back cover: Snowmobiling near Cooke City, courtesy of Yamaha Motor Corp.

1 KALISPELL

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located between Flathead Lake and Glacier National Park, Kalispell is one of Montana's major tourism and recreation centers. In the winter, this area attracts snowmobilers to three major snowmobile areas. Further north, at Whitefish, Big Mountain Ski Resort attracts downhill skiers from throughout this nation and Canada. Cross-country skiing and ice fishing are also popular winter sports in this area. Because of its location on the west side of the Continental Divide and near moderating Flathead Lake, temperatures are milder and snow is wetter here than in the central and eastern two-thirds of the state. Much of the land surrounding Kalispell and the Flathead Valley is national forest land, making logging and wood products the other major industry in this area.

LOCATION: Northwestern Montana, at the junction of U.S. 93 and U.S. 2.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: U.S. 93, north & south; U.S. 2, east & west, By Air: Kalispell; By Bus: Daily service; By Rail: AMTRAK has daily east-west service through Whitefish

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are three major snowmobile areas near Kalispell — the North Fork area, northwest of Whitefish, the South Fork area, surrounding Hungry Horse Dam, and the Crane Mountain area, southeast of Bigfork and just east of Flathead Lake. The only groomed trails are in the North Fork area and these trails total about 120 miles. There are another 300 miles of ungroomed trails here. Access is from Columbia Falls on the east or Olney on the west. Trails in the South Fork area above Hungry Horse Dam are recommended for experts only. Trails in the Crane Mountain area are sometimes groomed, depending on the logging season.

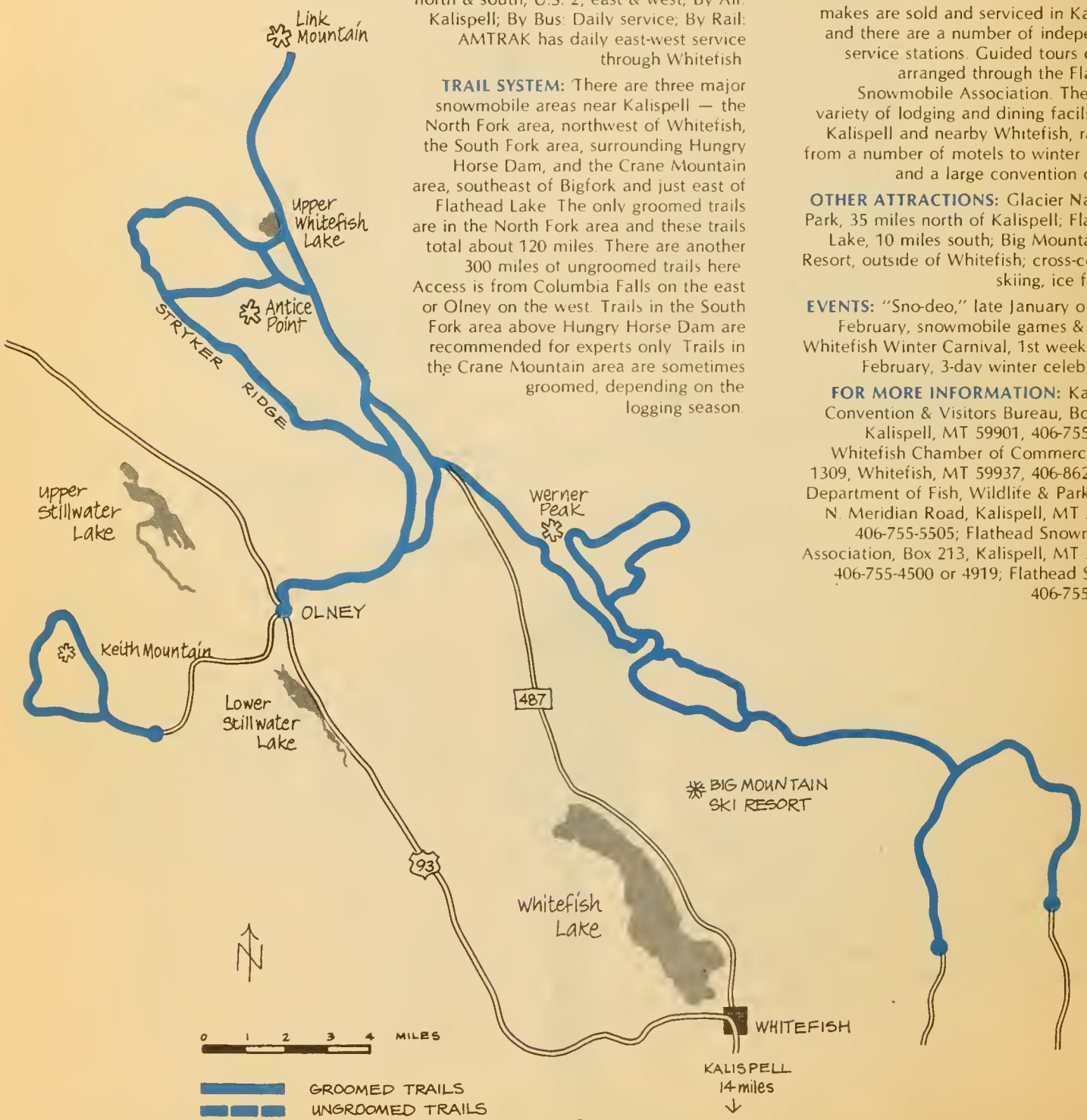
SEASON & CONDITIONS: The snowmobile season gets underway in mid-December and runs through April. Snowmobilers can expect deep powder snow conditions to last through January. The best riding is done from mid-February through mid-April on hardpack snow. Snow depth ranges from 3' on the level to 10'-12' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures range from 25°-35° F.

SERVICES: With a population of 10,600, Kalispell offers a full range of services to the winter visitor. Most snowmobile makes are sold and serviced in Kalispell and there are a number of independent service stations. Guided tours can be arranged through the Flathead Snowmobile Association. There is a variety of lodging and dining facilities in Kalispell and nearby Whitefish, ranging from a number of motels to winter lodges and a large convention center.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Glacier National Park, 35 miles north of Kalispell; Flathead Lake, 10 miles south; Big Mountain Ski Resort, outside of Whitefish; cross-country skiing, ice fishing.

EVENTS: "Sno-deo," late January or early February, snowmobile games & races; Whitefish Winter Carnival, 1st weekend in February, 3-day winter celebration.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kalispell Convention & Visitors Bureau, Box 978, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-6166; Whitefish Chamber of Commerce, Box 1309, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-3501; Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 N. Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-5505; Flathead Snowmobile Association, Box 213, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-4500 or 4919; Flathead Sports, 406-755-8767.



❷ MISSOULA

AREA DESCRIPTION: Located at the hub of five mountain valleys and home of the University of Montana, Missoula is a cultural and recreational center for western Montana. Just 65 miles north is Montana's beautiful Flathead Lake and extending 100 miles south is the lush Bitterroot Valley. In the winter, this mountain landscape is transformed into a vast winter sports area, complete with two downhill ski areas. Like other cities west of the Continental Divide, Missoula's climate resembles that of the Pacific Northwest with more moisture and milder temperatures than the central and eastern two-thirds of the state.

LOCATION: Western Montana at the junction of I-90 and U.S. 93.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: I-90 east and west; U.S. 93 north and south; By Air: Missoula; By Bus: Daily service, both north-south and east-west.

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are three major snowmobile areas near Missoula. The most popular is the Lolo Pass Winter Sports Area, about 35 miles southwest of Missoula, off U.S. 12. Here, the Lolo and Clearwater national forests have designated a number of trails for snowmobilers, skiers and snowshoers. About a hundred miles of trails take the snowmobiler over much of the country that Lewis and Clark first explored 175 years ago. Two popular snowmobile areas closer to Missoula are the Miller Creek area, just southeast of the city, and Blue Mountain, on the southwest edge. About 15 miles northeast of Missoula, there is a turnoff to another trail that connects with the Seeley Lake trail network. This cross-country trail is groomed at both ends but not all the way through. Altogether, there are about 75 miles of groomed trails in the Missoula area, plus many more miles of ungroomed trails and open play areas.

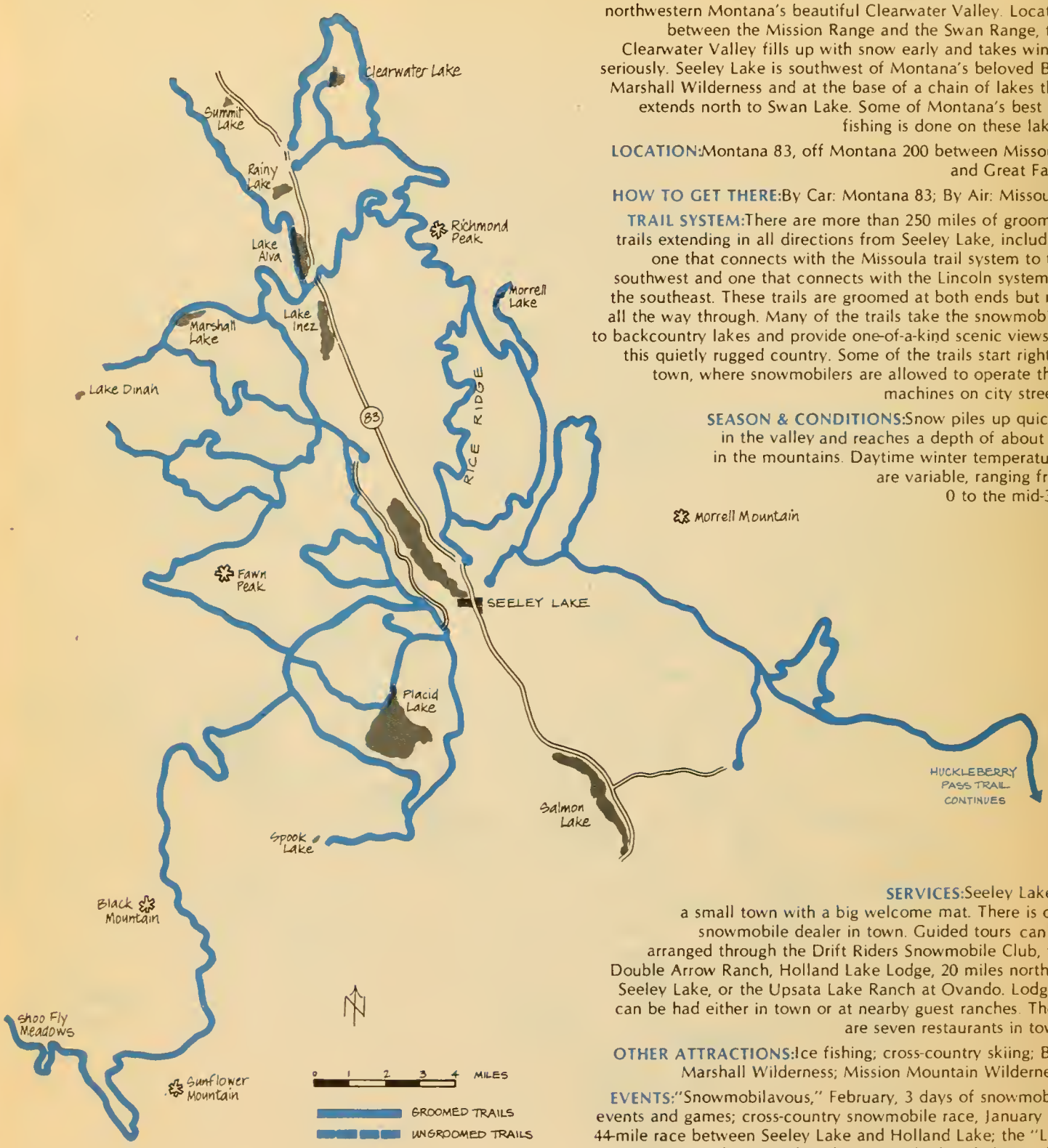
SEASON & CONDITIONS: The season runs from about mid-December through April with heavy, hardpack snow throughout most of the season. The Missoula-area climate is wetter and more moderate than the central and eastern two-thirds of the state. Snow depth ranges from 2' on the level to 8'-10' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures range in the 30s.

SERVICES: Missoula, a city of 34,000, offers a full range of services to winter visitors, including snowmobile sales and service. Some of Montana's best dining can be done in Missoula, and lodging ranges from modest to elegant. Complete facilities are also available at Lolo Hot Springs, 9 miles east of Lolo Pass on U.S. 12

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Snowbowl Ski Area, 13 miles northwest of Missoula, one of Montana's most challenging downhill ski areas; Marshall Mountain Ski Area, 4 miles east of Missoula, day and night downhill skiing; groomed cross-country ski trails; ice fishing; Lewis & Clark Trail, U.S. 12 southwest of Missoula in the Lolo Pass Winter Sports Area; Flathead Lake, 65 miles north on U.S. 93; Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, south of Missoula.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Missoula Chamber of Commerce, Box 7577, Missoula, MT 59807, 406-543-6623; Missoula Ranger District (Lolo National Forest), 2801 Russell, Missoula, MT 59801, 406-329-3111; Powell Ranger Station (Clearwater National Forest), Lolo, MT 59847, 208-942-3113; Missoula Snow Goers, Route 2, Mallard Estates No. 20, Missoula, MT 59801. Trail maps of Lolo Pass Winter Sports Area available through the Forest Service.

3 SEELEY LAKE



AREA DESCRIPTION: Seeley Lake is a locally popular snowmobile area, with a well developed trail system in northwestern Montana's beautiful Clearwater Valley. Located between the Mission Range and the Swan Range, the Clearwater Valley fills up with snow early and takes winter seriously. Seeley Lake is southwest of Montana's beloved Bob Marshall Wilderness and at the base of a chain of lakes that extends north to Swan Lake. Some of Montana's best ice fishing is done on these lakes.

LOCATION: Montana 83, off Montana 200 between Missoula and Great Falls.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: Montana 83; By Air: Missoula.

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are more than 250 miles of groomed trails extending in all directions from Seeley Lake, including one that connects with the Missoula trail system to the southwest and one that connects with the Lincoln system to the southeast. These trails are groomed at both ends but not all the way through. Many of the trails take the snowmobiler to backcountry lakes and provide one-of-a-kind scenic views of this quietly rugged country. Some of the trails start right in town, where snowmobilers are allowed to operate their machines on city streets.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: Snow piles up quickly in the valley and reaches a depth of about 12' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures are variable, ranging from 0 to the mid-30s.

SERVICES: Seeley Lake is a small town with a big welcome mat. There is one snowmobile dealer in town. Guided tours can be arranged through the Drift Riders Snowmobile Club, the Double Arrow Ranch, Holland Lake Lodge, 20 miles north of Seeley Lake, or the Upsata Lake Ranch at Ovando. Lodging can be had either in town or at nearby guest ranches. There are seven restaurants in town

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Ice fishing; cross-country skiing; Bob Marshall Wilderness; Mission Mountain Wilderness.

EVENTS: "Snowmobilavous," February, 3 days of snowmobile events and games; cross-country snowmobile race, January 30, 44-mile race between Seeley Lake and Holland Lake; the "Lost 180," 1st week in March; 4-day, 180-mile dog sled race that passes through Seeley Lake.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Seeley-Condon Chamber of Commerce, Box 516, Seeley Lake 59868; Seeley Lake Ranger District (Lolo National Forest), Drawer G, Seeley Lake, MT 59868, 406-677-2233; Drift Riders Snowmobile Club, P.O. Box 174, Seeley Lake, MT 59868. Trail maps available in Seeley Lake.

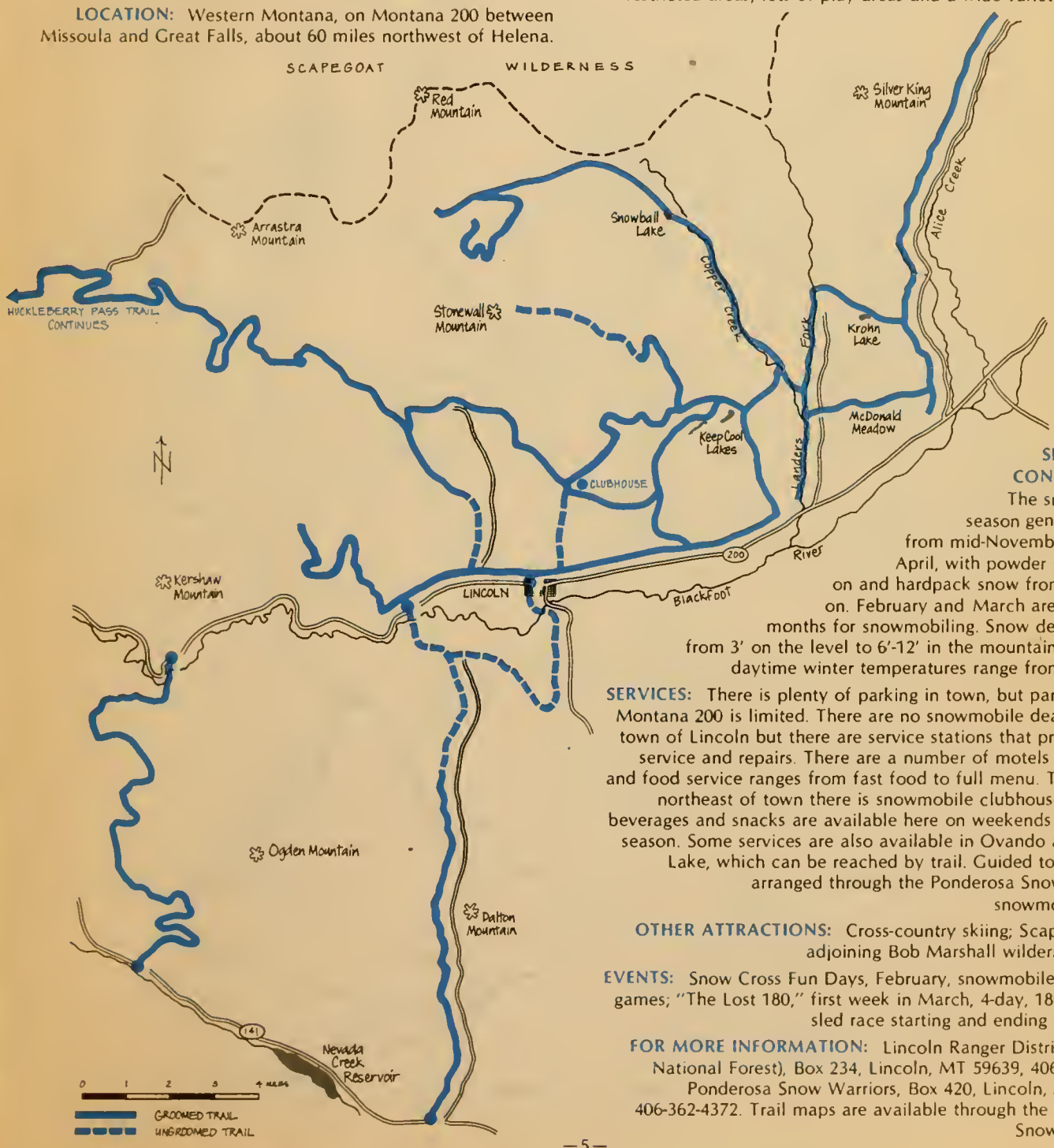
4 LINCOLN

AREA DESCRIPTION: A gateway to some of Montana's most popular backcountry, Lincoln attracts outdoor recreationists throughout the year. In the winter, backpacks, hiking boots and fly rods give way to snowmobiles, cross-country skis and dog sleds An extensive network of groomed snowmobile trails begins right in town and extends generally north, northeast and northwest to the boundary of the Scapegoat Wilderness. Snowmobiling is a family and a friendly activity in Lincoln. Even though snowmobilers are permitted to drive their machines in Lincoln, the real headquarters is a new clubhouse about three miles northeast of town that was built recently by Lincoln's snowmobile club, the Ponderosa Snow Warriors. Snowmobilers gather here every weekend during the season for free coffee, hot chocolate, homemade goodies and trail talk.

LOCATION: Western Montana, on Montana 200 between Missoula and Great Falls, about 60 miles northwest of Helena.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: Montana 200 from Missoula or Great Falls; Route 279 from Helena, By Air: Missoula, Great Falls, Helena; By Bus: Daily service between Missoula and Great Falls.

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are 11 major trails fanning out from Lincoln, with 8 of them groomed regularly. Groomed trails total about 200 miles. Most of the trails can be picked up right from town, where snowmobiling is permitted on streets and roads. Although the trails cross some private land, most of the trails are on the Helena National Forest and extend generally north to the Scapegoat Wilderness boundary. One of the trails — the Huckleberry Pass trail — provides a connecting link with the Seeley Lake trail system to the northwest. There are few restricted areas, lots of play areas and a wide variety of trails.



SEASON & CONDITIONS: The snowmobile season generally runs from mid-November through April, with powder snow early on and hardpack snow from February on. February and March are the prime months for snowmobiling. Snow depth ranges from 3' on the level to 6'-12' in the mountains. Average daytime winter temperatures range from 0°-20° F.

SERVICES: There is plenty of parking in town, but parking along Montana 200 is limited. There are no snowmobile dealers in the town of Lincoln but there are service stations that provide fuel, service and repairs. There are a number of motels in Lincoln, and food service ranges from fast food to full menu. Three miles northeast of town there is snowmobile clubhouse. Free hot beverages and snacks are available here on weekends during the season. Some services are also available in Ovando and Seeley Lake, which can be reached by trail. Guided tours can be arranged through the Ponderosa Snow Warriors snowmobile club.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Cross-country skiing; Scapegoat and adjoining Bob Marshall wilderness areas.

EVENTS: Snow Cross Fun Days, February, snowmobile races and games; "The Lost 180," first week in March, 4-day, 180-mile dog sled race starting and ending in Lincoln.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Lincoln Ranger District (Helena National Forest), Box 234, Lincoln, MT 59639, 406-362-4265; Ponderosa Snow Warriors, Box 420, Lincoln, MT 59639, 406-362-4372. Trail maps are available through the Ponderosa Snow Warriors.

5 HELENA

AREA DESCRIPTION: Montana's capital city, Helena, is a charming community of 26,000 located at the base of the east slope of the Continental Divide in western Montana. Its mountain setting makes Helena an ideal, year-round recreation spot for hunters, fishermen, hikers and backpackers, skiers and snowmobilers. In the winter, Helenans have only to step out their back door to find miles of snowmobiling and ski touring trails. There is also a locally popular downhill ski area — Belmont — just outside of town. Helena is rich in frontier history. In 1864, four Georgia prospectors discovered gold in what they called "Last Chance Gulch" and created an overnight boom town. The name stuck and to this day, Helena's main street is known as Last Chance Gulch.

LOCATION: Western Montana, at the junction of I-15 and U.S. 12

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: I-15, north-south, U.S. 12, east-west; By Air: Helena; By Bus: daily north-south and east-west service.

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are three snowmobile areas here, all within 10 to 25 miles of Helena. About 10 miles southwest of town, snowmobilers start the 45-mile Minnehaha loop trail at a big parking lot up Rimini Gulch. From Minnehaha Road, the trail follows the ridge of the Continental Divide before turning east to the Cataract Meadows and Park Lake area. The trail brings snowmobilers right back to the parking lot. Northwest of town, there is a 41-mile loop that can be picked up either at Austin or Marysville, two old mining towns. This trail crosses historic Mullan Pass on the Continental Divide and consists of three interconnected loops with lots of play areas. Food and refreshment are available at the Marysville House in Marysville. Belmont Ski Area is also located at Marysville. The third area is about 25 miles northeast of Helena on the north loop of the scenic "Figure-8" route, which is groomed regularly for snowmobiling. To reach this 35-mile loop (not shown on the map) start at the Vigilante Campground, north of the small town of York, and ride up Trout Creek Canyon three miles to the trailhead. The loop covers the mountainous area just east of the Gates of the Mountains Wilderness. Refreshments and limited food are available in York. There is plenty of parking space at all three of these areas.

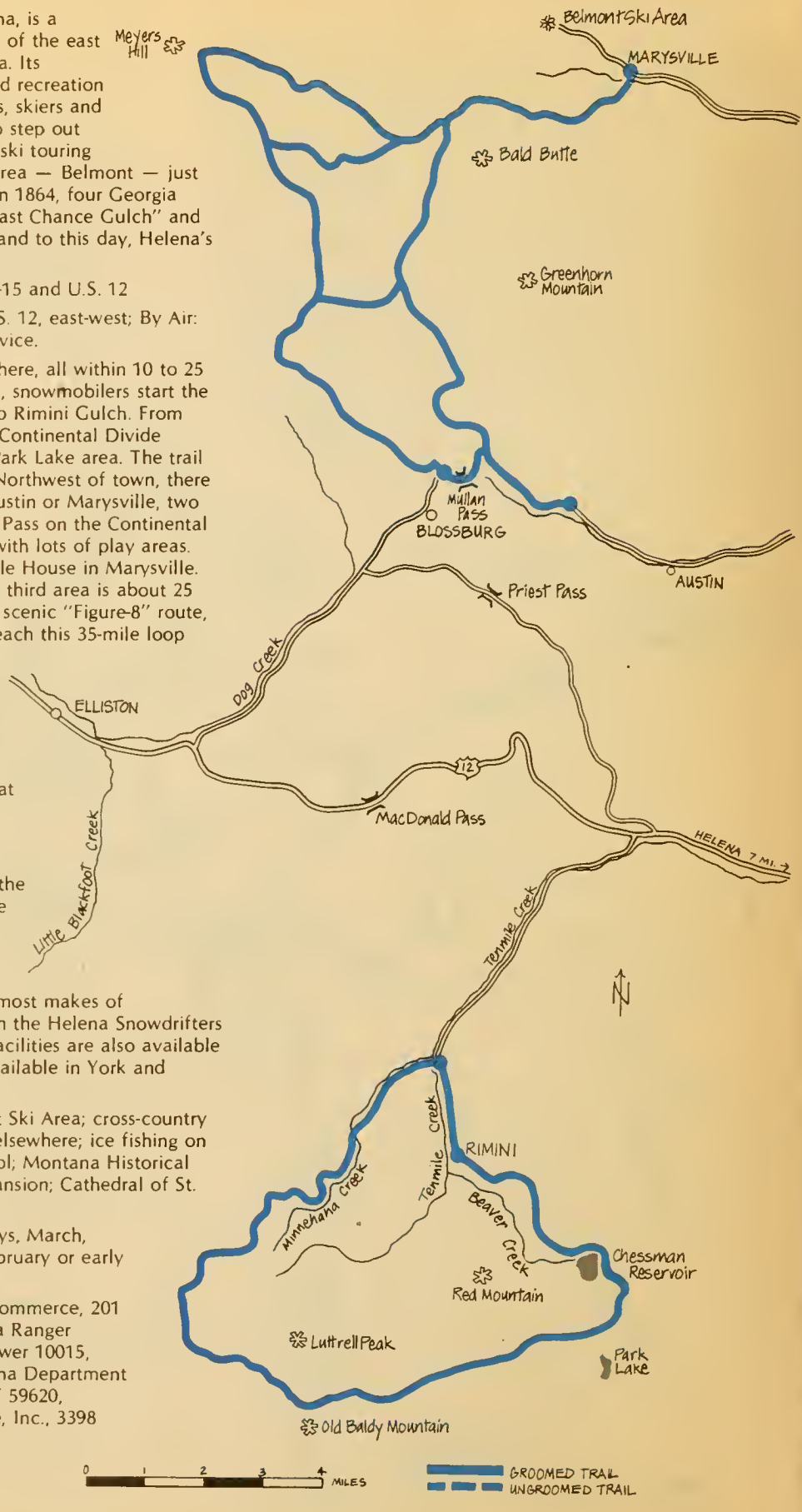
SEASON & CONDITIONS: Helena's snowmobile season runs from December through March, with conditions improving as the season progresses and the snowpack settles. Snow depth ranges from 2' on the level to 5'-6' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures range in the high 20s and low 30s.

SERVICES: A full range of visitor services is available in Helena, including sales and service of most makes of snowmobiles. Guided tours can be arranged through the Helena Snowdrifters snowmobile club. A variety of lodging and dining facilities are also available in Helena. Refreshments and a limited menu are available in York and Marysville.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Downhill skiing at Belmont Ski Area; cross-country skiing at Frontier Town atop MacDonald Pass and elsewhere; ice fishing on Canyon Ferry, Hauser and Holter lakes; State Capitol; Montana Historical Society and Russell Gallery; Original Governor's Mansion; Cathedral of St. Helena.

EVENTS: Weekly Trail Rides, every Sunday; Fun Days, March, snowmobile games, barbecue; Charity Ride, late February or early March, York-Figure 8 Loop.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Helena Chamber of Commerce, 201 E. Lyndale, Helena, MT 59601, 406-442-4120; Helena Ranger District (Helena National Forest); Federal Bldg., Drawer 10015, Room 498, Helena, MT 59626, 406-449-5490; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 East 6th; Helena, MT 59620, 406-449-3750; Helena Snowdrifters, c/o Polar Marine, Inc., 3398 Highway 12 East, Helena, MT 59601, 406-442-3910.



6 KING'S HILL

AREA DESCRIPTION: This is a locally popular winter sports area in the Little Belt Mountains between Great Falls and White Sulphur Springs. Here, snowmobilers, downhill skiers and cross-country skiers all enjoy the beauty and the challenge of the King's Hill area. Showdown Ski Area is within one mile of the snowmobile trailhead and groomed cross-country ski trails are nearby. The snow stays longer in these mountains than in many others, extending the winter sports season well into late spring.

LOCATION: Central Montana off U.S. 89, 70 miles southeast of Great Falls and 31 miles north of White Sulphur Springs.

HOW TO GET THERE: By car: U.S. 89; By Air: Great Falls.

TRAIL SYSTEM: Snowmobilers enjoy between 120 and 150 miles of groomed trails in the King's Hill area, plus many additional miles of ungroomed trails and large, open areas that tie in with the groomed trail system. There are several loop trails and numerous parks, meadows and play areas. A large parking lot is located one mile north of King's Hill summit, within a mile of Showdown Ski Area, making this an excellent area for visitors who want to fit some skiing in with their snowmobiling.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: The season generally runs from mid-November through April, with snow conditions improving as the season progresses. Snow depth ranges from 3' to 5' and the average daytime winter temperature ranges in the high 20s and the low 30s.

SERVICES: All makes of snowmobiles are sold and serviced in the area, either in Great Falls or White Sulphur Springs. Fuel, oil, lodging and food are also available in Neihart and at the Forest Green and Checkerboard resorts. Food and drink are available at the Newlan Creek Club, the Lazy Doe, Cub's Den and at Showdown Ski Area. Guided tours can be arranged through the Great Falls Snowmobilers, Inc. With a population of 57,000, Great Falls is Montana's second-largest city and offers a full range of services, lodging and entertainment.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Showdown Ski Area; groomed cross-country trails, ice fishing; C.M. Russell Museum & Original Studio in Great Falls.

EVENTS: Cross country snowmobile races, cook-outs and fun runs throughout the season.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: King's Hill Ranger District (Lewis & Clark National Forest), Box A, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645, 406-547-3361; Great Falls Snowmobilers, Inc., Box 6032, Great Falls, MT 59406, 406-454-1922. Maps available at the trailhead.

7 GEORGETOWN LAKE

AREA DESCRIPTION: Georgetown Lake is a popular recreation area, both winter and summer. Located on Montana's only designated scenic route, U.S. 10A, Georgetown Lake is just north of the rugged Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness and south of the beautiful Flint Creek Range. Georgetown Lake is famous for its fishing, both in the summer and through the ice in the winter. The frozen lake is also headquarters for a network of snowmobile trails that extend in every direction. There are also two downhill ski areas nearby, Discovery Basin and Wraith Hill.

LOCATION: Southwestern Montana, between Anaconda and Drummond, on U.S. 10A — the Pintler Scenic Route.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: U.S. 10A, accessible from I-90 between Missoula and Butte; By Air: Butte; By Bus: Daily service along U.S. 10A.

TRAIL SYSTEM: Most of the trails start right at the lake and take the snowmobiler in every direction to favorite landmarks, including Peterson Meadows, Blodgett Gulch, Fred Burr Pass and Carpp Ridge, which ends at the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness boundary. There is a warm-up cabin at Peterson Meadows. These trails and others constitute about 75 miles of groomed trails. There are many more miles of ungroomed trails and a vast play area surrounding the lake.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: The snowmobile season runs from mid-November through March, with cold, dry snow throughout most of the season. Snow depth ranges from 2' on the level to 10' to 12' in the mountains. Daytime temperatures range from 15°-20°.

SERVICES: There are a number of snowmobile dealers in the area, with sales and service available on the lake at Denton's Point and at nearby Philipsburg, Anaconda and Butte. Rentals are also available at Denton's Point and Philipsburg. Guided tours can be arranged through the Anaconda Snowmobile Club. There is lodging and food service available at the lake as well as in nearby Philipsburg, Anaconda and Butte. A large, year-round resort, Fairmont Hot Springs, is about 25 miles east of the lake.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Discovery Basin Ski Area, just north of Georgetown Lake; Wraith Hill Ski Area, between Anaconda and Georgetown Lake; cross-country skiing; ice fishing.

EVENTS: Anaconda Sno Fest, late January and early February, 2 weeks of winter games, events and races.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Anaconda Chamber of Commerce, Box 757, Anaconda, MT 59711, 406-563-2400; Philipsburg Ranger District (Deerlodge National Forest), Philipsburg, MT 59858, 406-859-3211; Anaconda Snowmobile Club, Denton's Point, Box 202, Georgetown Lake, MT 59711, 406-563-8182. Maps are available through the Philipsburg Ranger District.

8 ELKHORN-WISE RIVER

AREA DESCRIPTION: This is a somewhat remote and locally popular winter sports area in the Pioneer Mountains west of Dillon in southwestern Montana. The main snowmobile area extends north and south between Elkhorn Hot Springs and Wise River, a friendly little community that serves as seasonal headquarters for hunting and fishing in Montana's vast Big Hole Valley. The easiest way to reach this area is from Dillon, but access is also available by snowmobile from Wise River. The Big Hole Valley has been attracting visitors for well over a hundred years. In 1862, Montana's first major gold strike brought thousands of fortune seekers to Bannack, between Dillon and Elkhorn Hot Springs. Now preserved as a state park, this little ghost town was one of the West's early boom towns and Montana's first territorial capital. Further north and west of Wisdom is the Big Hole Battlefield National Monument where, in 1877, 800 Nez Perce Indians survived an attack by U.S. Army forces trying to banish them from the West.

LOCATION: Southwestern Montana on an improved road between Wise River and Polaris, 27 miles west of Dillon off Route 278.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: Montana 43 and Route 278, both off I-15, south of Butte; By Air: Butte; By Bus: Daily north-south service through Dillon.

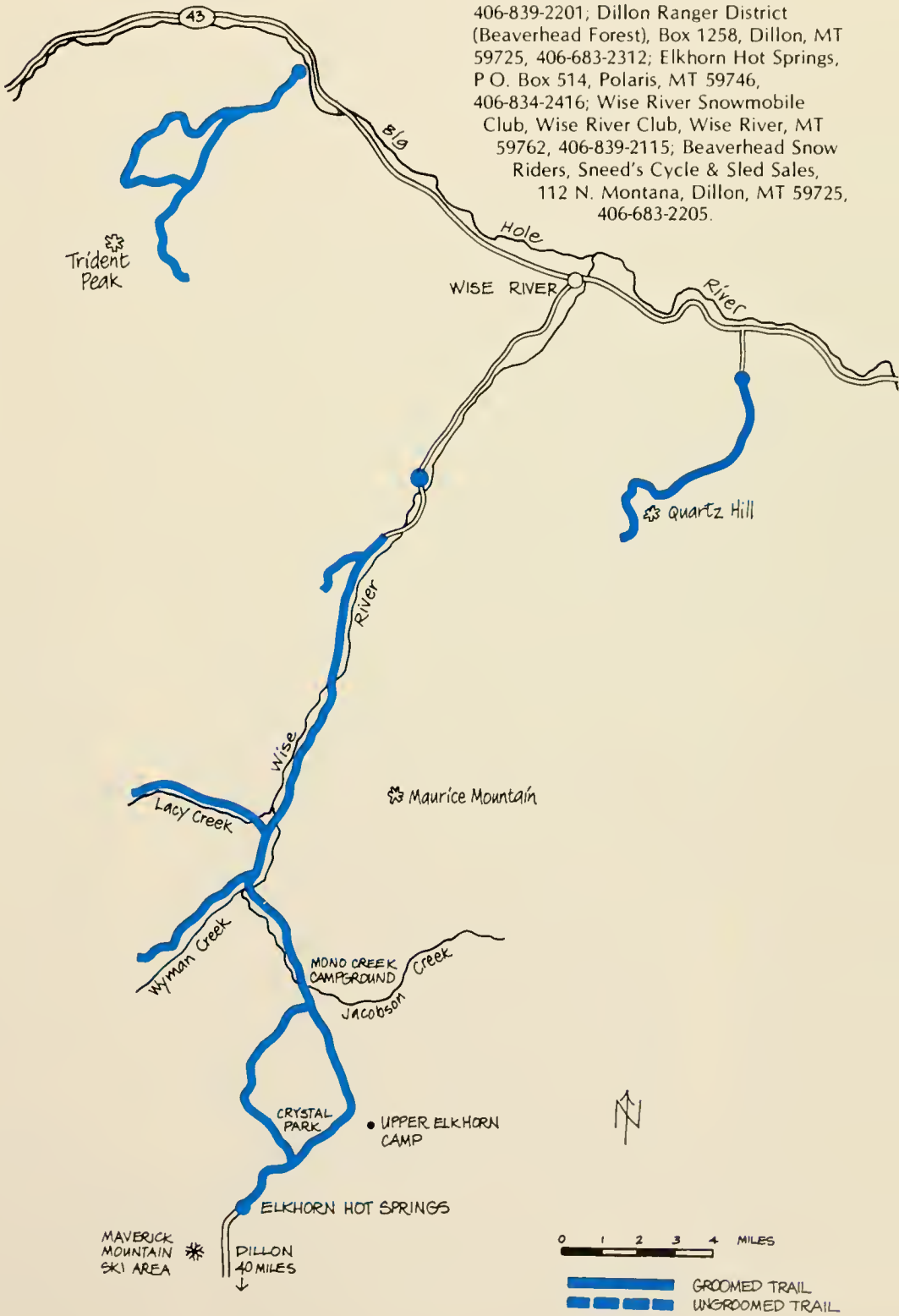
TRAIL SYSTEM: The main trail extends along a road between Elkhorn Hot Springs and Wise River, with several loop trails extending from the main trail. There are 60 to 70 miles of groomed trails in the area, plus lots of open play areas and other unmarked trails. Unmarked and ungroomed trails connect both Jackson and Wisdom, on the west side of the Pioneers, with the main trail, but these trails are recommended only for experts who know the area.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: The snowmobile season runs from Thanksgiving to mid-April, with snow conditions improving as the season progresses. This area has an excellent spring season. Snow depth ranges from 5' to 7' and the average daytime winter temperature is in the 20s.

SERVICES: Headquarters for this area is Elkhorn Hot Springs, with additional services at the Grasshopper Inn, Wise River at the north end of the trail, and at Dillon. There is parking space at both ends of the trail. The nearest snowmobile dealers are in Wise River, Dillon, Anaconda and Butte, but fuel, oil and some service are available at the Grasshopper and at Elkhorn Hot Springs. Rentals are also available at Elkhorn. Lodging is available at both the Grasshopper and Elkhorn as well as food service. Another popular winter resort in the area is the Sundance Lodge, off Montana 43, west of Wise River. Food and lodging are also available in Wise River and in Dillon.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Maverick Mountain downhill ski area, near Elkhorn Hot Springs, pony lift, double chairlift, ski school, sales, rentals and lodge with cafeteria and bar; groomed cross-country ski trails.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Wise River Ranger District (Beaverhead National Forest), Box 86, Wise River, 59762, 406-839-2201; Dillon Ranger District (Beaverhead Forest), Box 1258, Dillon, MT 59725, 406-683-2312; Elkhorn Hot Springs, P.O. Box 514, Polaris, MT 59746, 406-834-2416; Wise River Snowmobile Club, Wise River Club, Wise River, MT 59762, 406-839-2115; Beaverhead Snow Riders, Sneed's Cycle & Sled Sales, 112 N. Montana, Dillon, MT 59725, 406-683-2205.



MONTANA: NATURALLY INVITING, NATUR

ALLY EXCITING

9 BOZEMAN

AREA DESCRIPTION: A popular gateway to the Yellowstone Park area, Bozeman is also headquarters for two major snowmobile recreation areas. One lies to the northeast in the magnificent Bridger Range and one extends south to Yellowstone National Park through Montana's beautiful Gallatin River Canyon. Two of Montana's major downhill ski areas — Bridger Bowl and Big Sky — are also located in this area. Just 90 miles to the south is the ultimate winter getaway, Yellowstone National Park. Bozeman is a lively western city of 22,000, home of Montana State University and a major tourism and recreation center.

LOCATION: Southwestern Montana on I-90 between Billings and Butte, 90 miles north of the Yellowstone National Park.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: I-90, U.S. 191, By Air: Bozeman; By Bus: Daily east-west service and north-south service between Bozeman and West Yellowstone.

TRAIL SYSTEM: Popular trails north of Bozeman are the Brackett Creek/Fairy Lake trails and the Olson Creek trail. Combined, they form about 20 miles of groomed trails, with plenty of parking, big play areas and spectacular alpine scenery. Bridger Bowl downhill ski area and Flaming Arrow Ski Touring Centre are also located in this area. South of Bozeman, the popular but difficult Big Sky Trail extends about 123 miles to West Yellowstone, with some portions groomed. The northern portion of this trail is recommended for experienced, well-conditioned parties only. Strangers to the area should be accompanied by local guides. Easier but equally spectacular trips, using portions of the Big Sky Trail, can be made by taking any of five intermediate access roads. Another popular trail in this area is the Buck Creek Ridge trail, 3 miles south of the Big Sky turnoff, which provides 10 miles of easy snowmobiling on the Doe Creek Road to excellent snow play areas. Altogether there are between 60 and 90 miles of groomed trails in the Bozeman area, with many more miles of ungroomed trails.

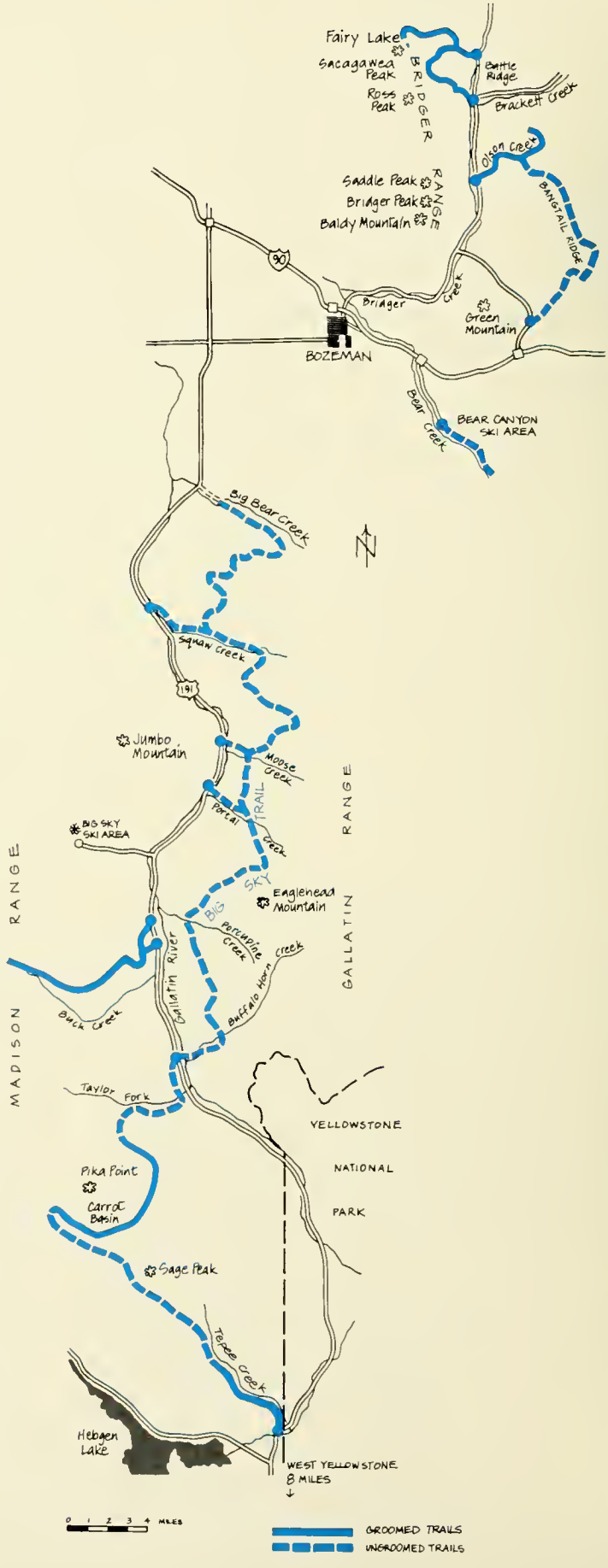
SEASON & CONDITIONS: Generally, the snowmobile season runs from late November or early December through April. Powder snow can be expected until late February or early March; hardpack snow from then on. Snow depth ranges from 2' on the level to 12'-15' in the mountains. Average daytime winter temperatures range from 5°-20° F. in January to 20°-40° in March and April

SERVICES: The City of Bozeman provides the full range of services to winter visitors. Food and lodging range from modest to elegant, with a variety of activities and entertainment in the Bozeman area. All makes of snowmobiles are sold and serviced. There is good parking at the trailheads. Guided tours can be arranged through the Gallatin Valley Snowmobile Association.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Yellowstone National Park, 90 miles south of Bozeman on U.S. 191; Bridger Bowl Ski Area, 16 miles northeast of Bozeman on Route 86; Big Sky Ski Area & Resort, 45 miles south of Bozeman on U.S. 191; Flaming Arrow Ski Touring Centre, 15 miles northeast of Bozeman on Route 86; Lone Mountain Ranch ski touring area, 45 miles south of Bozeman on the road to Big Sky

EVENTS: Big Sky Cross Country Race, late-February or early-March, 123-mile snowmobile race on Big Sky Trail; Bozeman Winter Fair, late-January and early-February, week-long livestock show with extensive household, applied arts and commercial exhibits; Winter Carnival, winter sports festival, Bridger Bowl.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, Box B, Bozeman, MT 59715, 406-586-5421; Bozeman Ranger District (Gallatin National Forest), 601 Nikles, Bozeman, MT 59715, 406-587-5271; Gallatin Valley Snowmobile Association, Box 755, Bozeman, MT 59715. Maps available through Bozeman Ranger District.



⑩ COOKE CITY

AREA DESCRIPTION: Cooke City is a friendly little mountain village located near the northeast entrance to Yellowstone National Park. In the winter, it is accessible by car only from the Park's north entrance at Gardiner. Sitting at an elevation of 7,600 feet at the base of the breathtaking Beartooth Range, this alpine city welcomes winter early and doesn't roll up the streets until spring. Winter visitors frequently enjoy good spring conditions well into June. The Yamaha Motor Company has chosen the area as a test site for snowmobiles and the U.S. Ski Team frequently trains in this area.

LOCATION: Extreme southcentral Montana on U.S. 212 at the northeast entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: From the north entrance to Yellowstone Park at Gardiner, drive the northernmost road from Mammoth Hot Springs to Cooke City; By Air: Bozeman.

TRAIL SYSTEM: There are 50 to 75 miles of groomed trails in the Cooke City area, plus another 300 miles inside Yellowstone National Park. Most snowmobiling in the Cooke City area is done north of town, extending toward the boundary of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. These trails start in town and provide easy access to the spectacular Beartooth high country. Snowmobiling is permitted in town. The Beartooth Highway (U.S. 212) is closed during the winter and is not groomed or maintained as a snowmobile trail. It can be traveled as a 60-mile cross-country snowmobile run between Cooke City and Red Lodge but it is recommended for experts only. Visitors to the area should not attempt the trip without a local guide. To snowmobile inside Yellowstone Park, machines must be trailered from Cooke City to Tower Junction. From there, snowmobilers can ride over Dunraven Pass to Canyon Village but travelers should be aware of possible avalanche danger. For current snow conditions in the Park, call Park Service headquarters at 307-344-7381 For more information about trails and services inside the Park, see page 14.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: Winter comes early to this high country — sometimes as early as October — and lasts until June. The prime snowmobile season runs from Thanksgiving to mid-May. Snowmobilers can expect deep powder snow until February, when the snowpack starts settling. Snow depth ranges from 5' in Cooke City to 10'-14' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures range from 18°-25° F.

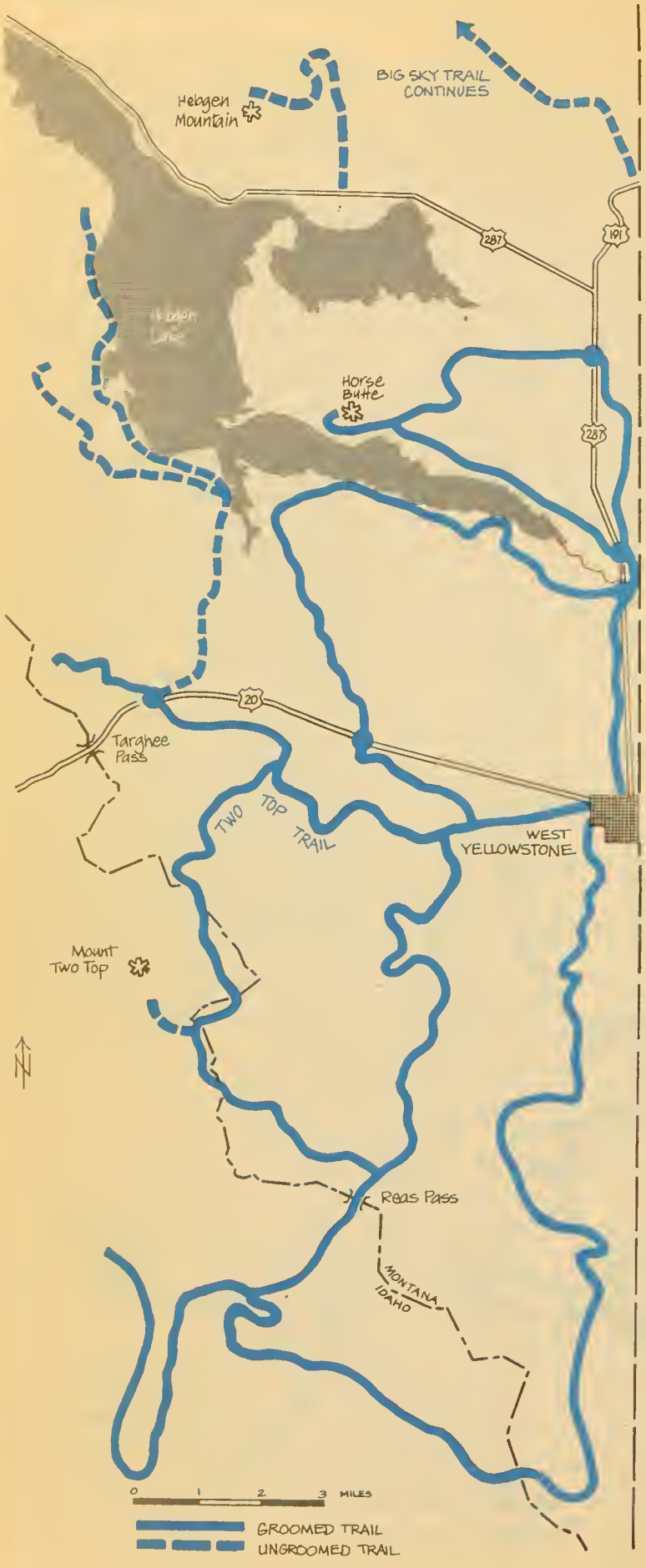
SERVICES: Cooke City is a small village with a self-described population of "120 people, 200 dogs and 3 moose." There is an even tinier village — Silver Gate — about 3 miles west. Once they get to Cooke City, however, most snowmobilers are fully satisfied with a range of services that includes a snowmobile dealer, an independent service station and a few friendly innkeepers and restauranteurs. Guided tours can be arranged through the Upper Yellowstone Snowmobile Club or the All Seasons Inn. Rentals are available at the All Seasons Inn.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Yellowstone National Park; Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness; cross-country skiing; ice fishing.

EVENTS: Snowmobile rally and races one weekend every month during the season.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gardiner Ranger District (Gallatin National Forest), Box 5, Gardiner, MT 59030, 406-848-7231; Upper Yellowstone Snowmobile Club, Box 1126, Cooke City, MT 59020.

⓫ WEST YELLOWSTONE



AREA DESCRIPTION: West Yellowstone is headquarters for an extensive trail system that connects 250 miles of trails in the immediate vicinity with trails in Yellowstone National Park and Idaho. Billed as the "snowmobile capital of the world," West Yellowstone comes to life in the winter and offers a full range of services, facilities and recreational opportunities for winter enthusiasts. As its name implies, this lively little community is the west entrance to Yellowstone National Park. The natural wonders of the nation's first national park make this area a one-of-a-kind winter vacation. Frozen steam from the park's many geysers form eerie "ghost trees" throughout the park. Hot water pools dot the white landscape with dazzling hues of yellow and green, blue and pink. And wildlife — buffalo, deer, moose and elk — is abundant. Heavy snows close the roads inside the park during the winter season, making this fantasyland the private domain of winter visitors.

LOCATION: West entrance to Yellowstone National Park, southwestern Montana, midway between Bozeman, Montana, and Idaho Falls, Idaho, at the junction of U.S. 191/287 and U.S. 20.

HOW TO GET THERE: By Car: U.S. 191, U.S. 287, U.S. 20; By Air: Bozeman, Idaho Falls; By Bus. Daily service from Bozeman and Idaho Falls.

TRAIL SYSTEM: West Yellowstone is the center of the most extensively developed trail system in the state. The connecting system of groomed trails includes 300 miles within Yellowstone National Park, 250 miles within the Gallatin National Forest immediately adjacent to the Park and to West Yellowstone, plus 300 miles in Idaho. The trail system begins in town, where snowmobilers are permitted to operate their machines on most city streets (U.S. 191 & 20 are off-limits). The groomed trail network surrounding West Yellowstone provides snowmobilers

Yellowstone National Park

the opportunity to ride trails like the Big Sky Trail that extends 100 miles north toward Bozeman and the Two Top National Recreation Snowmobile Trail Snowmobiling in Yellowstone National Park is not permitted off groomed trails The same restriction applies to tree plantations in the immediate national forest area around West Yellowstone. These plantation areas are well marked. Unrestricted snowmobiling is allowed in all other national forest areas. Specific location of all trails in the West Yellowstone area can be found in the "Winter Guide to Yellowstone Country." This pocket-size trail guide can be obtained from the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Forest Service or at the entrance to Yellowstone National Park.

SEASON & CONDITIONS: The snowmobile season runs from Thanksgiving to April, with powder snow early on and hardpack snow from early February until the end of the season. Snow depth ranges from about 5' on the level to 12'-14' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures run 15°-25° F.

SERVICES: West Yellowstone offers the full range of services to snowmobilers. Since the trail system begins in town, there is plenty of parking. All snowmobile manufacturers are represented in West Yellowstone, plus a number of independent service repair shops. Sales, service, rentals, repairs and fuel are readily available. Guided tours and packages are available through these operators: Yellowstone Tour & Travel, the Ranch Motel, the Roundup Motel, Richardson's Motel, the Big Western Pine Motel, the Three Bear Lodge and Jerry's Enterprises. There is a variety of lodging to choose from in West Yellowstone. Food service ranges from fast food to full menu. Inside the Park, lodging, food service and fuel are available at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge. Fuel, vending services and limited hot food are also available at the Canyon Village warming hut. There is another warming hut at Madison Junction. West of town, snowmobilers can reach three other restaurants — one at the Lionshead Resort and two in Idaho — by trail.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS: Ski touring, snowshoeing and snow coach trips in Yellowstone National Park; ice fishing.

EVENTS: "Special Event Weekends" throughout the winter season; Great American Ski Chase, mid-March, 1 of 8 nationally sanctioned cross-country ski marathons held each year throughout the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce, Box 458, West Yellowstone, MT 59758, 406-646-7528; Hebgen Lake Ranger District (Gallatin National Forest) Box 520, West Yellowstone, MT 59758, 406-646-7369. Trail maps and brochures are available through the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce.

⑫ BIG TIMBER

About 40 miles south of Big Timber in southcentral Montana and just north of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness is a popular snowmobile trail through the Boulder River Canyon. The 25-mile trail begins about 20 miles south of a tiny community called McLeod and extends to the edge of the wilderness at Independence, an abandoned mining town. The entire trail is groomed. Another trail begins 7 miles south of McLeod and leads to a large, open play area. Because of its location in the mountains, this area has reliable snow and excellent conditions. The season runs from mid-November to early May. Snow depth ranges from 2' on the level to 8' in the mountains. Daytime winter temperatures range in the high 20s and low 30s. The nearest services, including snowmobile sales and service, food and lodging, are in Big Timber, a town of 1,700, located on I-90 between Billings and Livingston.

For more information contact the Big Timber Ranger District (Gallatin National Forest), Box A, Big Timber, MT 59011, 406-932-3647 or the Sweetgrass County Recreation Association, Big Timber, MT 59011, 406-932-2418.

⑬ MILES CITY/GLENDIVE

In eastern Montana, there are a couple of popular snowmobile areas. Just outside of Miles City, on I-94, snowmobilers take to the frozen Tongue River starting at the Spotted Eagle Recreation Area on the west end of town. There is plenty of parking here and an unloading ramp. Snowmobilers can ride 21 miles up the river to the 12-mile Dam Fishing Access Site, where there is another ramp. Only the river is open to snowmobiling; the land on both sides is privately owned. Snowmobiling on the river is not considered hazardous because the river is only about 2' deep beneath another 2' of ice. The snowmobile season lasts only 45 to 60 days, beginning in mid-January. Eastern Montana's dry climate and plains terrain make for dry, powder snow and lots of drifting. Snow depth is about 2' and daytime winter temperatures range from 10° to 25° F. Snowmobile sales and service are available in Miles City, along with a full range of lodging and dining facilities.

About 70 miles northeast of Miles City, winter visitors can enjoy the unique experience of snowmobiling or skiing through 4,600 acres of badlands called Makoshika State Park, just outside of Glendive. The name "Makoshika" is derived from a Sioux Indian name for "bad earth," and in the winter, these badlands look like they were born on the moon. The park is maintained by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Depending on snow conditions, snowmobiling is allowed both on and off the 8 miles of roads through the park. As in Miles City, snow is dry and drifting and the season is short, from mid-January through February. Services are available in Glendive, a city of 6,000.

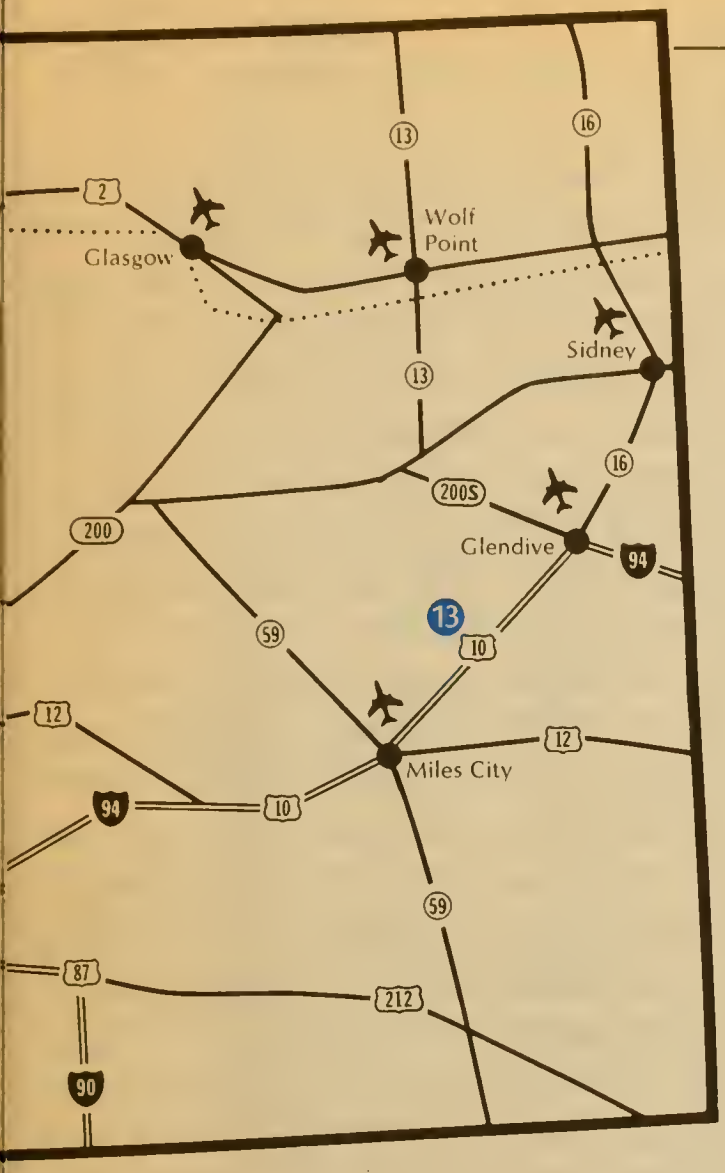
For more information on winter sports in both of these areas, contact the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Box 430, Miles City 59301, 406-232-4365.

The simplified map shown is for general reference only.

Snowmobile Areas

1. Kalispell (page 2)
2. Missoula (page 3)
3. Seeley Lake (page 4)
4. Lincoln (page 5)
5. Helena (page 6)
6. King's Hill (page 7)
7. Georgetown Lake (page 8)
8. Elkhorn - Wise River (page 9)
9. Bozeman (page 12)
10. Cooke City (page 13)
11. West Yellowstone (page 13)
12. Big Timber (page 15)
13. Miles City/Glendive (page 15)

GETTING THERE



Getting to Montana is easy. Interstate and state highways are kept in good condition during the winter. AMTRAK serves northern Montana. Bus companies and car rentals exist in quantity and major airlines serve major cities and towns, with smaller airlines making good connections.

Highways are plowed and sanded when necessary during the winter. Motorists can get weather information and up-to-the-minute road condition reports on all radio stations every morning, with current information broadcast frequently throughout the day. In the state, phone toll-free 1-800-332-6171 for the latest road conditions; outside the state, phone 406-449-2675. Latest road conditions for roads within about a 100-mile radius of each of the following cities can be obtained by phoning 406-252-2806 for Billings; 406-586-1313 for Bozeman; 406-494-3666 for Butte; 406-453-2231 for Great Falls; 406-449-2641 for Helena; 406-755-4949 for Kalispell, and 406-728-8553 for Missoula.

AMTRAK parallels U.S. 2 through northern Montana, with daily stops at Libby, West Glacier, Whitefish, Glacier Park and points east. Call AMTRAK at 1-800-421-8320 for additional information.

Car Rentals and bus service are available in all major cities and many smaller ones.

The following airlines serve Montana with scheduled flights:

Billings	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Bozeman	Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western
Butte	Northwest Orient, Western, Cascade Airways
Glasgow	Big Sky
Glendive	Big Sky
Great Falls	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier, Big Sky
Havre	Big Sky
Helena	Northwest Orient, Western, Frontier
Kalispell	Frontier, Western
Lewistown	Big Sky
Miles City	Big Sky
Missoula	Northwest Orient, Frontier, Western, Cascade Airways
Sidney	Big Sky
Wolf Point	Big Sky

Interstate Highways
Multilane Divided - Controlled Access

Two Lanes Paved

Improved - Graveled

Amtrak

Scheduled Air Service

For travel information, call

406-449-2654

Non-residents call toll-free:

1-800-548-3390

ACCOMMODATIONS

Rest. = Restaurant
Lnge = Lounge
Kitch = Kitchenettes

Credit Cards
AX = American Express
VI = Visa
MC = Mastercard
DC = Diner's Club
CB = Carte Blanche

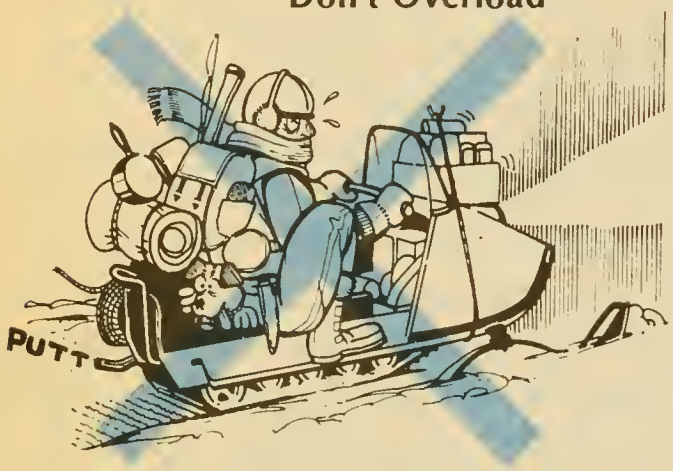
	Name/Address/Phone	Rest	Lnge	Kitch	Credit Cards	Comments
7 ANACONDA 59711	Brown Derby Inn, Georgetown Lake, 563-5072	•	•	3	VI, MC	Near snowmobile trails
	Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, 3 m. off I-90 at Exit 211, 797-3241, 800-332-3272	•	•		AX, VI, MC	2 hot mineral pools, 2 Olympic pools, saunas, near skiing & snowmobiling
	Marcus Daly Hotel, 119 W. Park, 563-3411	•	•		VI, MC	10 mi. from Georgetown Lake
	Seven Gables, Georgetown Lake, 563-5052		•	•		Located at trailhead of groomed snowmobile trails
	Vagabond Lodge Motel, 1421 E. Park, 563-5251				VI, MC	
1 BIGFORK 59911	Bigfork Inn, 604 Electric, 837-6680	•	•		AX, VI, MC	Located on northeast tip of Flathead Lake
	Bigfork Timbers Motel, Hwy. 35, 837-6200				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Near Flathead Lake & Echo Lake recreation area, sauna & whirlpool
	Echo Lake Resort, 1901 LaBrant Rd., 837-5414		•	•		Cabins & trailer spaces, ice fishing, near Jewel Basin ski touring area
	Leivo's Lake Lodge, Box 146, 837-4656	•			VI, MC	
	Wind Jammer, East Lakeshore, 837-4414		•	3	VI, MC	
9 BIG SKY 59716	Buck's T-4, Hwy. 191, 995-4111	•	•		VI, MC	45 mi. N of Yellowstone Park, group rates on request, hot tubs
	Corral Motel, Gallatin Gateway, 995-4249	•	•		VI, MC	
12 BIG TIMBER 59011	C.M. Russell Motel, Hwy. 10, 932-2145	•	•		VI, MC	Outdoor plug-ins
7 BUTTE 59701	Best Western War Bonnet Inn, 2100 Cornell Ave. 494-7800, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Plenty of parking, outdoor plug-ins
	Capri Motel, 220 N. Wyoming, 723-4391				AX, VI, MC	
	City Center, 641 West Park, 782-0401				VI, MC	Special rates for large groups
	Copper King Inn, 4655 Harrison, 494-6666, 800-332-8600	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Indoor pool, sauna & jacuzzi, weekend rates, convention center
	Eddy's Motel, 1205 S. Montana, 782-0471			3	VI, MC	Restaurant nearby
	Finlen Complex, Broadway & Wyoming, 723-5461		•		VI, MC	
	Rose Motel, 920 S. Montana, 782-9101				VI, MC	Restaurant nearby
1 COLUMBIA FALLS 59912	Cedar Lodge Motel, Hwy. West 40, 892-3274			6	VI, MC	Restaurant & lounge nearby; near snowmobiling, downhill skiing & Glacier Park
	Glacier Inn Motel, Hwy. 40, 892-4341	•		4	VI, MC	Near snowmobile trails & Glacier Park, free a.m. coffee, plug-ins, babysitting
	Mountain Shadows Motel, 7285 Hwy. 2, 892-4333	•		8	VI, MC	Campground, laundry, grocery store, parking, plug-ins; nightclub nearby
3 CONDON 59826	Holland Lake Lodge, Swan Valley, SR Box 2083, 754-2282	•	•		VI, MC	20 mi. N of Seeley Lake, gas, oil, guided snowmobile trips; trail lunches
	Montana Sports Ranch, Box 501, 754-2351	•	•		VI, MC, DC	Family-style meals; near snowmobiling area
10 COOKE CITY 59020	All Seasons Inn, Hwy. 212, 838-2251	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC	Snowmobile rentals, swimming pool
	Cooke Pass Motel, Hwy. 212, 838-2341			•		Large log house sleeps 10, bedding & utensils furnished
	Hoosier's Motel, Hwy 212, 838-2241				VI, MC	Cafes nearby
7 DEER LODGE 59722	Best Western Big Sky Motel, 210 N. Main, 846-2590, 800-528-1234				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Outdoor plug-ins
	Down Towner Motel, 504 Milwaukee, 846-1021			•	VI, MC	Center of town
1 DILLON 59725	Metlen Hotel, S S. Railroad Ave., 683-2335	•	•			Near hot springs & Maverick Mountain downhill ski area
10 GARDINER 59030	Hillcrest Motel, Box 130, 848-7353			•	MC	Near north entrance to Yellowstone Park
	Town Cafe & Motel, Main St., 848-7322	•	•		AX, VI, MC	Near north entrance to Yellowstone Park
	Wilson Motel, 1 blk E of Hwy 89, 848-7303			1	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Free transportation to snowmobile parking lot at Mammoth, restaurant & lounge nearby
6 GREAT FALLS 59401	Airway Motel, 1400 18th Ave. SW, 761-8915			11	VI, MC	Weekly rates
	Best Western Ponderosa Inn, 220 Central Ave., 761-3410, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Group rates, heated indoor garage, outdoor plug-ins, water beds
	Copper Court Motel, 1222 5th Ave. S, 452-5656			•		Weekly & monthly rates, shopping center nearby
	Edelweiss Motor Inn, 626 Central Ave. W, 452-9503				VI, MC	Restaurant & lounge nearby, outdoor plug-ins
	Evergreen Motel, Vaughn Rd., 452-0312			•	VI, MC	Outdoor plug-ins
	Fergus Motel, 299 3rd St. NW, 452-6435			•	AX, VI, MC	
	Highwood Village Motel, 4009 10th Ave. S, 452-8505			21	AX, VI, MC	Restaurant & lounge nearby; plenty of parking, outdoor plug-ins
	Holiday Inn, 1411 10th Ave. A, 761-4600	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Daily food & beverage specials; outdoor plug-ins
	Holiday Village Super 8 Lodge, 1214 13th St. S, 727-7600, 800-843-1991				AX, VI, MC	Shopping center, restaurants nearby
	Best Western Heritage Inn, 1700 Fox Farm Rd., 761-1900, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	2 indoor pools, sauna, whirlpool, game room, airport limousine, lots of parking, group rates
	Imperial 400 Motel, 601 2nd Ave. N, 452-9581			2	AX, VI, MC	2 waterbeds, 8 blks from Charles Russell Museum
	O'Haire Motor Inn, 17 7th St. S, 454-2141, 800-332-9819	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Indoor heated garage and pool; airport limousine
	Rainbow Hotel, 20 3rd St. N, 727-8200, 800- 548-9974, 800-332-9940 (in MT)	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Downtown location, parking, sauna, exercise & game rooms; airport limousine
	Rendezvous Motor Inn, Fox Farm Rd. & 10th Ave. S, 452-9525	•		•	VI, MC	
	Sahara Motel, 3500 10th Ave. S, 761-6150			•	VI, MC	
	Sheraton Great Falls Inn, 400 10th Ave. S, 727-7200, 800-325-3535	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Skylark Super Seven, 415 10th Ave. S, 727-7977			•	VI, MC	Group rates, snowmobile parking lot, outdoor plug-ins
	Starlit Motel, 1521 1st Ave. NW, 452-9597			•	VI, MC	Off interstate, weekly rates, restaurant & lounge nearby; outdoor plug-ins
	Triple Crown Motor Inn, 621 Central Ave., 727-8300				AX, VI, MC	Downtown location; free cocktail, coffee & donuts to guests; outdoor plug-ins
	Wagon Wheel, 2620 10th Ave. S, 761-1300			•	VI, MC	Indoor swimming pool
5 HELENA 59601	Best Western Colonial Inn, 2301 Colonial Dr., 443-2100, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Saunas, laundry, game room, plug-ins, airport limousine
	Best Western Holiday Motel (Jorgenson's), 1714 11th, 442-1770, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Coach House Downtown, 910 N. Last Chance Gulch, 442-6080	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC	Tour rates, sauna, plug-ins, airport limousine
	Imperial 400 Motor Inn, 524 Last Chance Gulch, 442-0600, 800-368-4400			•	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Restaurants & lounge nearby
	Lamplighter Motel, 1006 Madison, 442-9200			8	VI, MC	Outdoor plug-ins
	Motel 6, 800 N. Oregon, 442-1311					
	Quality Inn Coach House East, 2101 E. 11th Ave., 443-2300, 800-228-5151	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Indoor pool, steam room, sauna, outdoor plug-ins, airport limousine
	Shilo Inn, 2020 Prospect Ave., 442-0320				AX, VI, MC	Indoor pool, sauna, steam room, continental breakfast, plug-ins, airport limousine
	Super 8 Motel, 2201 11th Ave., 443-2450, 800-843-1991				AX, VI, MC	
	Valley View Motel, 1831 Euclid Ave., 442-6384			4	VI, MC	
1 JACKSON 59736	Jackson Hot Springs Lodge, Main St., 834-2141	•	•			Group rates, swimming pool, laundry
7 KALISPELL 59901	Blue & White Motel, 640 E. Idaho, 755-4311	•			VI, MC	Pool, jacuzzi, plug-ins, in-room coffee, continental breakfast
	Devonshire Motor Inn, 444 First Ave. E., 755-7136	•	•		AX, VI, MC	
	El Rancho Motel, 1539 Hwy. 2 E., 257-6700	•		7	VI, MC	Weekly, monthly rates, lounge nearby
	Four Seasons Motor Inn, 350 N. Main St., 755-6123	•			AX, VI, MC	Sauna, hot tub, plug-ins
	Glacier Gateway Motel, 264 N. Main St., 755-3330			•	AX, VI, MC	City center, plug-ins

	Name/Address/Phone	Rest	Lnge	Kitch	Credit Cards	Comments
	Kalispell Motel, 801 E Idaho, 257-3094			•	VI, MC	Restaurant nearby
	Outlaw Inn, 1701 Hwy 93 S 755-6100, 800-528-1234	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Heated pool, jacuzzi, racquetball court, game room, convention center
	Red Lion Motel, 1330 Hwy 2 W, 755-6700, 800-547-8010	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	San Rose Motel, 1501 Hwy 2 E 755-9449				AX, VI, MC	Winter rates
	Tepee Lodge Motel, Hwy 2 E 755-4455			9	VI, MC	Weekly winter rates
	Thrifty Scot Motel, 1830 Hwy 93 S, 755-3798				AX, VI, MC	Heated indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, game room, restaurant & lounge nearby, plug-ins
	Timbers Motel, 1680 Hwy 93 S, 257-7249				AX, VI, MC, DC	Hot tubs, plug-ins, restaurant nearby
	2 West Motel, 347 W Idaho, 755-5376			•	VI, MC	
	Vacationer Motel, 285 7th Ave E N, Hwy 2 E, 755-7144				AX, VI, MC	Group rates, winter rates, plug-ins, restaurant nearby
	White Birch Motel, 17 Shady Lane, 755-3008			•	VI, MC	Weekly winter rates
4 LINCOLN 59639	Blue Sky Motel, Box 311, 362-9450			•	VI, MC	Winter rates, plug-ins, near snowmobile trails
	Lincoln Lodge, Box 152, 362-4396					Weekend rates, restaurant & lounge nearby, plug-ins, near snowmobile trails
	Sportsman Motel, Box 7, 362-4481				VI, MC	Restaurant & lounge nearby, plug-ins, lots of parking, near snowmobile trails
10 LIVINGSTON 59047	Best Western Yellowstone Motor Inn, 1515 W Park, 222-6110	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Heated indoor garage and pool, live western music & dancing on weekends
	Del Mar Motel, I-90 Business Loop, 222-3120			•	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Restaurant nearby, plug-ins
	Long's Motor Inn, 814 E Park, 222-1923				VI, MC	Winter rates, restaurant nearby, plug-ins
	Paradise Inn & Convention Center, Park Road S, 222-6320	•	•		VI, MC	
	VIP Motel, Rt 62, 222-3600	•			VI, MC	Free breakfast for snowmobilers only, winter rates, plug-ins
	Y-GO-BY Motel, 1204 E Park, 222-1589			•	VI, MC	Guided snowmobile trips arranged, pool & jacuzzi, game room, plug-ins, restaurant nearby
1 LOLO 59847	Lolo Hot Springs Resort, Hwy 12 W, 273-2290	•	•		VI, MC	2 indoor hot pools, 1 outdoor pool, RV spaces, annual snowmobile rodeo, 9 mi E of Lolo Pass
12 MCLEOD 59052	Eagles Nest Lodge (Hawley Mountain Ranch), Box 4, 932-2723			•		Family-style meals, accessible by skis or over-snow vehicles only, pick-up service from trailhead
3 MISSOULA 59801	Bel Aire Motel, 300 E Broadway, 543-3183	•			AX, VI, MC	Indoor swimming pool
	Best Western Creekside Inn, 630 E Broadway, 549-2387, 800-528-1234				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Complimentary coffee, restaurant nearby
	Best Western Executive Motor Inn, 201 E Main, 543-7221	•			AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Best Western Southgate Inn, 3530 Brooks, 251-2250				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Sauna
	Holiday Inn, 1609 W Broadway, 543-7231	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Orange Street Inn, 801 N Orange Street, 721-3610				AX, VI, MC	Commercial rates for snowmobilers, free continental breakfast, plug-ins, airport limousine
	Parkway Motel, 430 W Front, 549-2331				VI, MC	Off-season rates, winter rates, plug-ins
	Redwood Lodge, 8060 Hwy 93, 721-2110				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Restaurant & lounge nearby, weekly rates, laundry, plug-ins
	Royal Motel, 338 Washington, 542-2184				VI, MC	Off-season rates, weekly rates, plug-ins
	Sleepy Inn Motel, 1427 W Broadway, 549-6484			•	AX, VI, MC, DC	Weekly rates, lots of parking, restaurants nearby
	Village Red Lion Motor Inn, 100 Madison, 728-3100, 800-547-8010	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Steam baths, beauty salon, free airport courtesy car
4 OVANDO 59854	Upsata Lake Ranch, Box 96, 793-5515	•	•	•		Near Seeley Lake & Lincoln snowmobile areas, guided trips, ski touring, ice fishing, RV spaces
4 POLARIS 59746	Elkhorn Hot Springs, Box 514, 834-2416	•	•	•		Located at snowmobile trailhead, rentals, 2 hot pools, ski touring, downhill skiing, cabins
	Grasshopper Inn, Box 509, 834-2422	•	•			Near snowmobile trails, downhill skiing & hot springs, fuel & oil
10 PRAY 59065	Chico Hot Springs, Box 127, 333-4411	•	•	•	VI, MC	Hot pools, hot tubs, gourmet dining, live music, 29 mi N of Yellowstone Park
3 SEELEY LAKE 59868	Double Arrow Ranch, Drawer E, 677-2204	•	•	•	VI, MC	Groomed snowmobile & ski trails, hot tub
	Elkhorn Motel & Cafe, N of Seeley Lake, 677-2278	•				Near groomed trails
	Seeley Lake Motel, Box 134			4		Lakefront property, RV spaces
4 UTICA 59452	Circle Bar Guest Ranch, 423-5454	•			VI, MC	Family-style meals, guided snowmobile tours, snowmobile/ski packages, group rates
	South Fork Lodge, 374-2356 or 538-2301, ext. 5006	•				Package rates for meals, rooms & guided tours, groomed trails
11 WEST YELLOWSTONE 59758	Ambassador Motor Inn, 315 Yellowstone, 646-7365			5	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Snowmobile rentals, guided tours, package rates, restaurant & lounge nearby
	Big Western Pine Motel, 234 Firehole Ave, 646-7622	•		6	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Snowmobile rentals & parts, guided tours, package rates
	Brandin' Iron Motel, 201 Canyon, 646-7337		•		VI, MC, DC	Special rates, plug-ins
	City Center Motel, 214 Madison, 646-7337, 800-238-2552			5	VI, MC	4 large family units, restaurant nearby, plug-ins
	Executive Inn, Gibbon & Dunraven, 646-7681	•	•	•	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Lake View Ranch, on Red Rock Lakes, 494-2585 or 276-3300	•				About 45 mi W of W Yellowstone on wildlife refuge, heated pool, sauna, dorm for large groups
	Lazy G Motel, 123 Hayden, 646-7586			5	VI, MC	Snowmobile shop for guests, restaurant nearby
	Midtown Motel, 24 Dunraven, 646-7394				AX, VI, MC	Rates for extended trips, plug-ins, restaurant & lounge nearby
	Pine Shadows Motel, 530 Gibbon, 646-7541			•	VI, MC	Snowmobile shop for guests
	Pony Express Motel, 4 Firehole, 646-7644			1	VI, MC	Group rates
	The Ranch Motel, 235 Canyon, 646-7388	•	•		AX, VI, MC	Machine rentals arranged, guides on request, game room, plug-ins, lots of parking
	Ranger Motel, 220 Firehole, 646-7371			•	VI, MC	Snowmobile repair, parking, plug-ins, restaurant nearby
	Richardson's Motel, 645 Gibbon, 646-7802			2	VI, MC	
	Roundup Motel, 3 Madison, 646-7301			2	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Snowmobile rentals, sales & service, restaurant & lounge nearby
	Stage Coach Inn Travelodge, Madison & Dunraven, 646-7381, 800-255-3050	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Machine rentals arranged, group rates, sauna, hot tubs, live entertainment
	Tepee Motor Lodge, 205 Yellowstone, 646-7391	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Machine & clothing rentals, guided tours, whirlpool
	Three Bear Lodge, 217 Yellowstone, 646-7353	•	•		AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Machine & clothing rentals, guided tours, whirlpool
	Weston Lamplighter Motel, 103 Gibbon, 646-7373				AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Machine rentals arranged, group rates, restaurant & lounge nearby
	Western Motel & RV Park, 402 Madison, 646-7776			2	VI, MC	Weekly rates, plug-ins, RV spaces
	Westwood Motel, 238 Madison, 646-7713			•	VI, MC	Weekly rates
	Weary Rest Motel, 601 Hwy 20, 646-7633			5	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	
	Yellowstone Townhouses, 20 Firehole, 646-9331			•	VI, MC	Condominiums w/ linens & complete kitchens, group rates, weekly rates
1 WHITEFISH 59937	Bay Point Estates, 300 Bay Point Dr, 862-2331			•	VI, MC	Condominiums w/ complete kitchens, pool, jacuzzi, lakefront property, package rates
	Cadillac Hotel, 10 Central Ave, 862-3015	•	•		VI, MC	Live music
	Chalet Motel, 6430 Hwy 93 S, 862-5581				AX, VI, MC	Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi, hot tub, plug-ins
	Downtowner, 224 Spokane Ave, 862-2535	•			VI, MC	Off-season rates, plug-ins
4 WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS 59645	Rocky Mountain Lodging, 6510 Hwy 93 S, 862-2569				VI, MC	Cabins & motel rooms, indoor pool, sauna, restaurant nearby
	The Viking Lodge, 1360 Wisconsin Ave, 862-3547	•	•	4	AX, VI, MC, DC, CB	Lakefront property, fine food, meeting & convention facilities
	Spa Motel, 202 W Main, 547-3366				VI, MC	Hot mineral bath & swimming pool
4 WISE RIVER 59762	Sundance Lodge, 16 mi W of Wise River, 689-2491	•	•		VI, MC	Near wilderness area & Big Hole River, lodge & cabins, near snowmobiling & ski touring
	Wise River Club, Main St 839-2115	•	•		VI, MC	Full service station, sauna, laundry, general store nearby, near groomed trails
11 YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK 82190	Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Yellowstone Park Div TWA Services Inc Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190, 307-344-7311	•	•		AX VI MC, DC	Lodge, cabins, dormitory, snack shop, fuel, oil, emergency spare parts

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY

How many times have you been out snowmobiling alone, gotten separated from the rest of your group, been caught in a sudden snowstorm or had your machine break down? Any of these situations could rapidly develop into an emergency, requiring you to apply every bit of your experience and knowledge to survive. There is no reason why any person, if properly prepared and equipped, should become a fatality when faced with an emergency or adverse condition.

Don't Overload



BASIC NEEDS

When you venture out into the cold weather, you can't take along every stitch of clothing you own. You have to make the most of the heat within your own body. And, when you load your equipment onto your snowmobile, you don't want it to look like a covered wagon.

You should select the right combination of clothes to stay warm. Clothing should be windproof and water repellent. It should be snug so that is does not catch in the machine. Check the wind chill chart and be aware of the effect of wind speed For example, a snowmobile traveling 30 m.p.h. on a still day when the temperature is plus ten degrees will feel the same as though the temperature were a −33 degree F.

The first layer of clothing should be underwear that ventilates or "breathes." Beware of tight fitting cuffs and elastic bands that cut off circulation The second layer of clothing should provide comfort, utility and durability. Wool shirts and heavy pants do a good job. Head gear is especially important due to high heat loss through the head. Head gear should be a face mask with some covering over the head and ears. An approved helmet with ear protection is essential. Goggles or helmet face shields are a must for most types of driving. They protect your eyes against branches, thorns, snow and cold. Severe eye damage called "snow blindness" can occur because of the bright light reflected off the snow. The outer layer is usually a snowmobile suit. For hand warmers, mittens are the warmest.

AVALANCHE DANGER

The best way to avoid an avalanche is to stay out of areas which are avalanche hazards. Most accidents occur in slab avalanches, where a large area of snow breaks away and slides. The safest routes are on ridgetops and slightly on the windward side, away from cornices. Windward slopes are usually safer than leeward slopes. If you cannot travel on ridges, the next safest route is out in the valley, far from the bottom of slopes. Avoid disturbing cornices from below or above.

HYPOTHERMIA

The right clothing is crucial because the biggest killer of outdoor recreationists is hypothermia. Hypothermia is a drop in body temperature caused by excessive exposure to cold. The early symptoms are uncontrolled shivering, memory lapses and numbness.

Get the hypothermia victim out of the cold as soon as possible. Replace wet clothes with dry ones and put the victim in a warm sleeping bag. Try to keep the victim awake and if necessary, apply external heat, either by hot blankets or skin-to-skin contact in a sleeping bag.

If your snowmobile breaks down and you are unable to fix it, it is extremely important to remember that you must conserve energy in order to survive. Seek shelter from the wind and restrict your body movements to reduce sweating. Seek shelter in a protected area. Good planning, systematic maintenance of the machine and traveling with a companion will eliminate most emergencies.

Wind Chill Chart

Estimated Wind Speed in MPH	Actual Thermometer Reading (F)											
	50	40	30	20	10	0	-10	-20	-30	-40	-50	-60
	Equivalent Temperature (F)											
Calm	50	40	30	20	10	0	-10	-20	-30	-40	-50	-60
5	48	37	27	16	6	-5	-15	-26	-36	-47	-57	-68
10	40	28	16	4	-9	-21	-33	-46	-58	-70	-83	-95
15	36	22	9	-5	-18	-36	-45	-58	-72	-85	-99	-112
20	32	18	4	-10	-25	-39	-53	-67	-82	-96	-110	-124
25	30	16	0	-15	-29	-44	-59	-74	-88	-104	-118	-133
30	28	13	-2	-18	-33	-48	-63	-79	-94	-109	-125	-140
35	27	11	-4	-20	-35	-49	-67	-82	-98	-113	-129	-145
40	26	10	-6	-21	-37	-53	-69	-85	-100	-116	-132	-148
(wind speeds greater than 40 mph have little additional effect)	LITTLE DANGER* (for properly clothed person)				INCREASING DANGER*			GREAT DANGER*				
	*DANGER FROM FREEZING OF EXPOSED FLESH											

CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will be a good sports enthusiast. I recognize that people judge all snowmobile owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other snowmobile owners to promote fair conduct.

2. I will not litter trails or camping areas. I will not pollute streams or lakes.

3. I will not damage living trees, shrubs or other natural features. I will go out only when there is sufficient snow so that I will not damage the land.

4. I will respect other people's property and rights.

5. I will lend a helping hand when I see someone in distress.

6. I will make myself and my vehicle available to assist search and rescue parties.

7. I will not interfere with or harass hikers, skiers, snowshoers, ice anglers or other winter sports enthusiasts. I will respect their rights to enjoy our recreation facilities.

8. I will know and obey all federal, state and local rules regulating the operation of snowmobiles in areas where I use my vehicle. I will inform public officials when using public lands.

9. I will not harass wildlife. I will avoid areas posted for the protection or feeding of wildlife.

(C) 305

Don't settle for hills when mountains abound. Our snowmobile trail system will open the magnificent northern Rockies to you.

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